

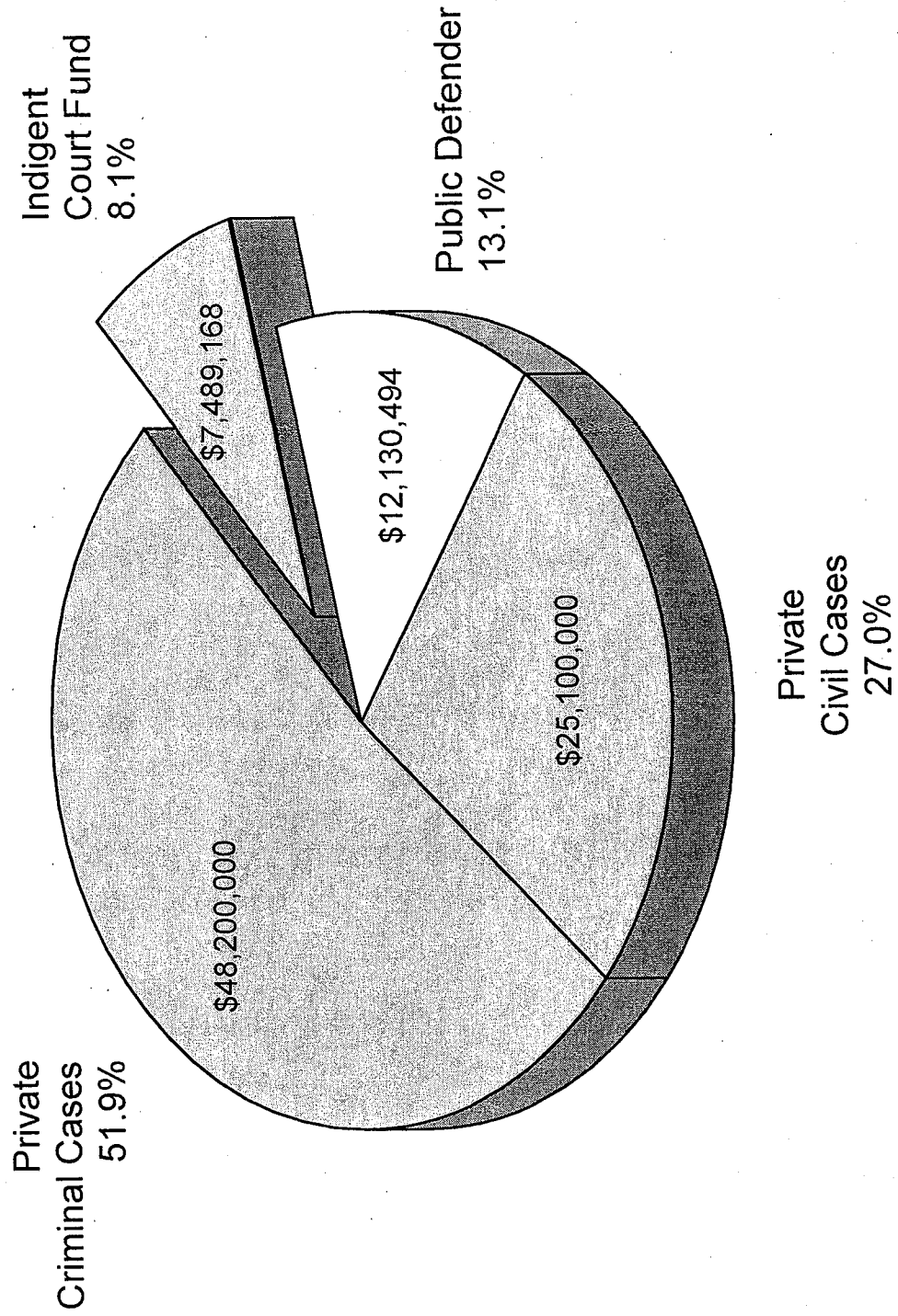
**Committee For Public Counsel Services  
Fiscal Year 2002 Budget Proposal**

House Ways & Means Committee Hearing

February 27, 2001

# CPCS Estimated Expenditures

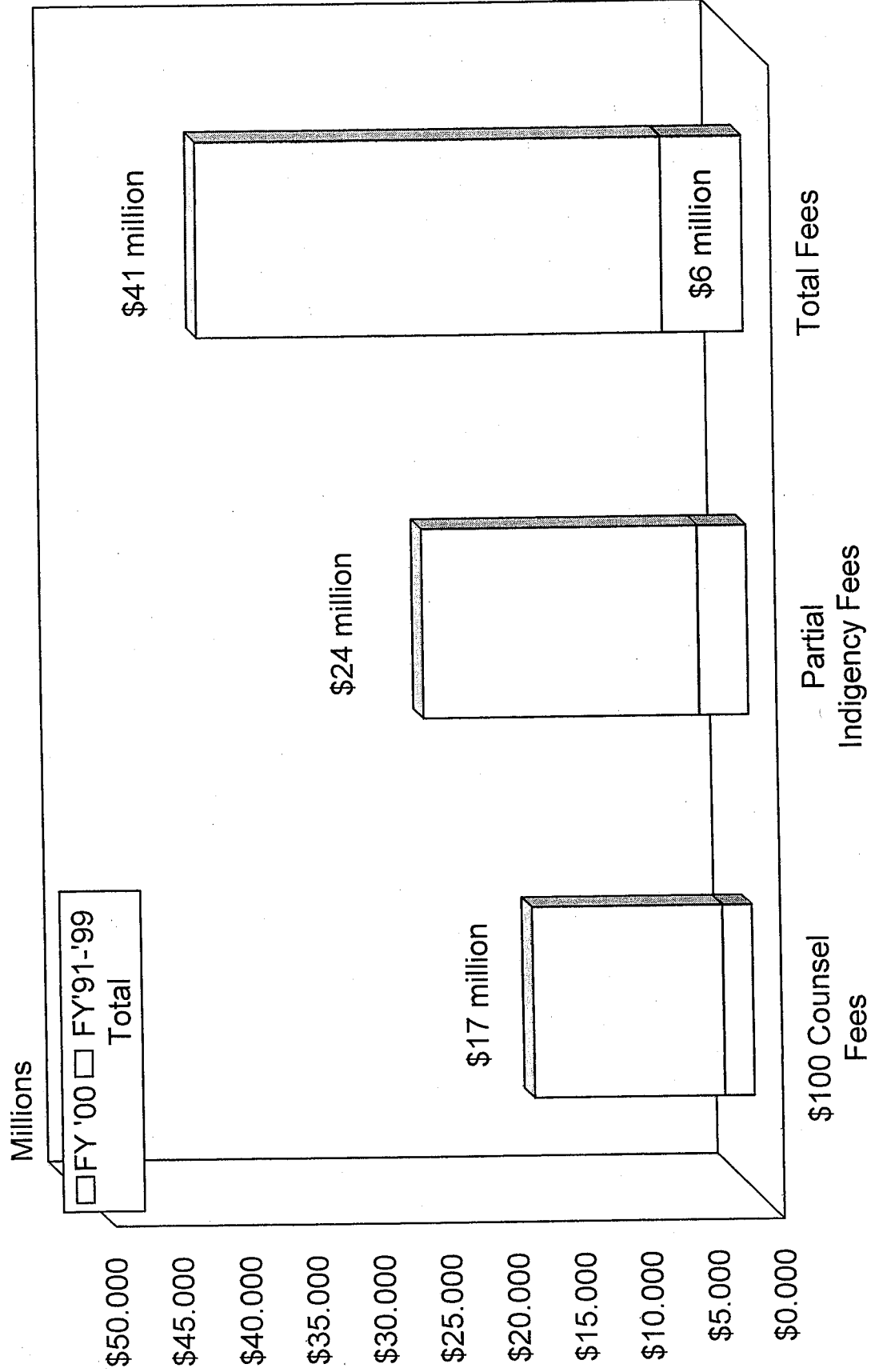
Fiscal Year 2001



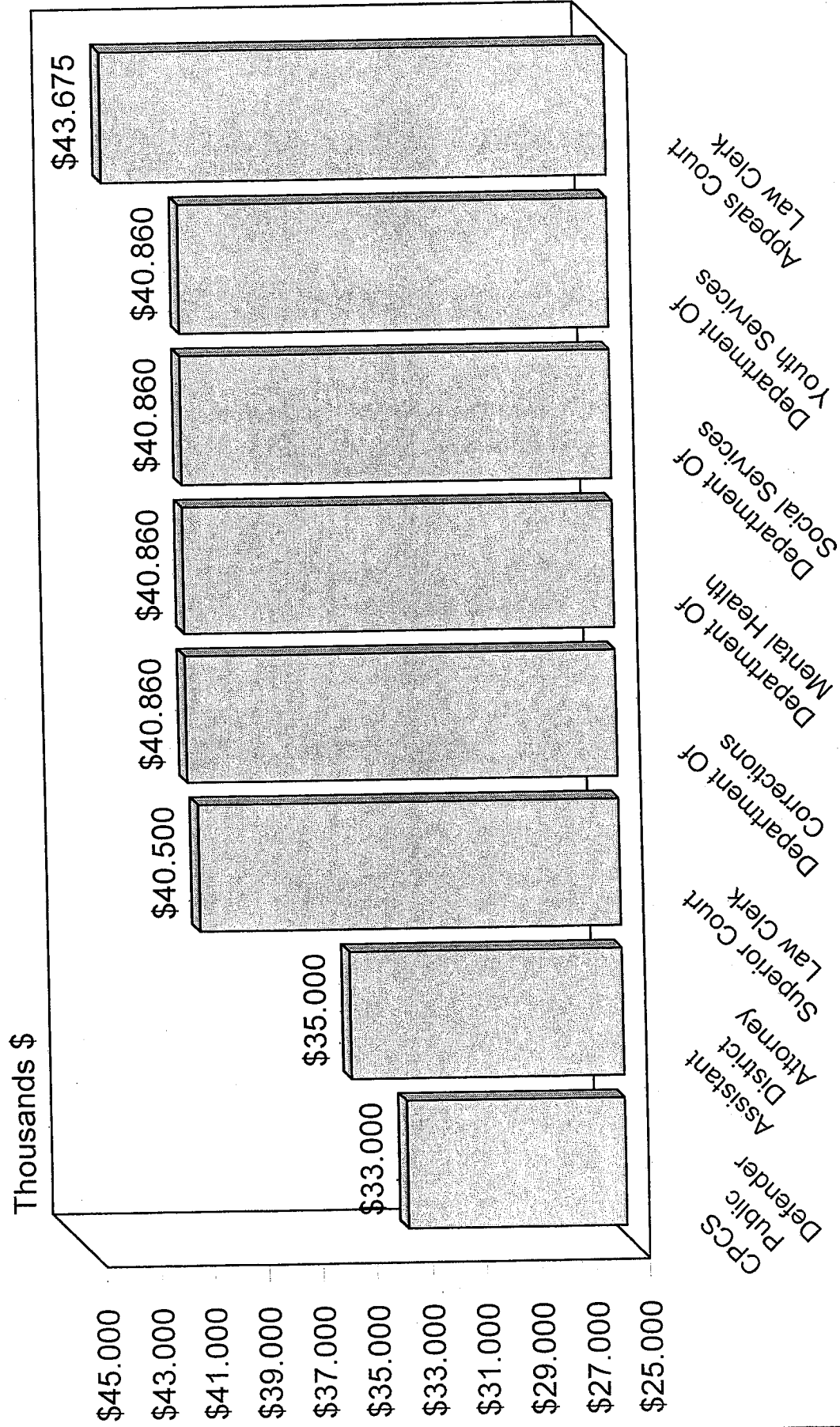
Total expenditure of \$92.9 Million (excluding one-time supplement)  
Unfunded Deficiency Estimate Of \$6.8 Million

# Ten Year Counsel Fees & Partial Indigency Fees - FY 1991-00

\$41 Million Received Into The General Fund From Indigent Clients



# Entry Level State Government Attorney Salaries



## COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC COUNSEL SERVICES

### ASSIGNED COUNSEL HOURLY RATE HISTORY

1986 - 2001

#### Criminal Cases

#### Civil Cases

1986	District Court	\$25/\$35	Care and Protection	\$35/\$35
	Superior Court	\$25/\$35	CHINS	\$25/\$35
	Murder	\$50/\$50	Mental Health	\$35/\$35
			Delinquency	\$25/\$35
1996	District Court	\$30/\$30	Care and Protection	\$39/\$39
	Superior Court	\$30/\$30	CHINS	\$30/\$30
	Murder	\$54/\$54	Mental Health	\$39/\$39
			Delinquency	\$30/\$30
1997	District Court	\$30/\$30	Care and Protection	\$39/\$39
	Superior Court	\$39/\$39	CHINS	\$30/\$30
	Murder	\$54/\$54	Mental Health	\$39/\$39
			Delinquency	\$30/\$30

1986 - 2001

Most rates (combined in-court and out-of-court) have increased by not more than \$4/hour in the last 15 years. In-court rates in District Court criminal, CHINS and Delinquency cases have decreased during this period.

COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC COUNSEL SERVICES  
Family and Youth Advocacy Project - Fiscal Year 2002

In its Fiscal Year 2002 budget, the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS) is requesting funds to implement a new model for the provision of legal services to families and youth. It is provisionally called the Family and Youth Advocacy Project.

The new model will include not only legal representation, but also advocacy for services that will prevent young clients from coming into the criminal justice system as adult criminal defendants or as adults who are not able to parent. Calling on the strengths of both the Children and Family Law Project and the Youth Advocacy Project, the new model would provide integrated community-based legal services to clients who have the greatest potential to benefit from a novel multi-disciplinary approach. The range of proceedings covered by attorneys in the Family and Youth Advocacy Project would match the jurisdiction of the juvenile court where delinquency and civil matters are addressed in one judicial forum.

The current Youth Advocacy Project (YAP) has been remarkably successful since it began in Roxbury in 1992. YAP has received national recognition for its innovative model of provision of legal services. Its team-based approach brings community outreach, social work and psychological support to legal strategies that serve clients well beyond the immediate challenges posed by court proceedings.

Similarly, since opening in 1995 the Children and Family Law Project (CAFL) offices in Salem and Springfield have earned widespread support from the bench and bar. The nature of children and family law cases, involving complex fact patterns and clients with multiple social issues, makes an especially compelling argument for a team-based model that will ensure that appropriate social service interventions are provided during client representation.

CPCS proposes to have Family and Youth Advocacy offices in three locations: Bristol County, Hampden County and Middlesex County. The Bristol County and Middlesex County offices would be staffed with an office head, four staff attorneys, a social worker, a community liaison and support staff. The Hampden office will be established by adding two attorneys, a social worker, a community liaison and support staff to the existing CAFL office.

It is anticipated that like the existing staffed programs, the new projects would be a resource to private attorneys on the Juvenile Delinquency and Children and Family Law assigned counsel panels. By using improved coordination of legal and community-based services, CPCS hopes the programs will make a long-term difference for clients involved in care and protection, termination of parental rights, CHINS, juvenile delinquency and youthful offender cases and reduce the cycle of court involvement for individual youths and families.